

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 538

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas takes pleasure in paying tribute to the Greater Houston Garifuna-American Partnership and in recognizing March 14, 2013, as Joseph Chatoyer Day in Texas; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Chatoyer was a revered chief of the Garifuna tribe, which hails from the Caribbean regions of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Guatemala, Belize, and Nicaragua; and

WHEREAS, This legendary warrior led his people in a revolt against the British colonial government when it held control over much of the Caribbean; Chief Chatoyer died on March 14, 1795, fighting to liberate his people; he is a national hero of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and his historical importance is recognized by Garifuna Americans across this state and nation; and

WHEREAS, The life and the struggles of Joseph Chatoyer are universal in their symbolism of courage in the face of tyranny; all cultures are endowed with the right to freedom and to determine their collective destinies; the bravery of Chief Chatoyer and the Garifuna people as they fought for liberation is indeed deserving of recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby proclaim March 14, 2013, as Joseph Chatoyer Day in Texas and commend the Greater Houston Garifuna-American Partnership on its efforts to preserve Garifuna culture and history; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of Joseph Chatoyer and the Garifuna people as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 25, 2013.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate